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SOCIO-LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF CROSS-BORDER MARRIAGE AMONG MUSLIMS IN MALAYSIA: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY

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Abstract

Marriage is a sacred bond between a man and a woman. Such a relationship is blessed by Allah as is mentioned in the Qur'an and the traditions (Sunnah) of the Prophet (PBUH). The laws created by man are meant to streamline the conduct of marriage, apart from the already provided Igukm laid down in Islam. There are people however who violate these laws due to their own ignorance and this violation affects the future of the marriage as well the people who are involved in it. A cross-border marriage is a marriage conducted without permission from the registrar of marriage in each State and its solemnisation can be contracted in Malaysia or outside Malaysia. The purpose of this study is to examine and analyse the differences in the demographic information respondents have with regard to the implications of cross-border marriage among Muslims in Malaysia. The sample consists of four hundred respondents from four regions in Malaysia. A survey using a questionnaire was the main method of collecting data. To support the empirical evidence, a semi-structured interview was also conducted in the study. The research reveals that even though the respondents were aware of the implications of cross-border marriage, a new mechanism is still required to control the occurrence of this type of marriage as it affects the people who are involved, especially the women and children.

Keywords

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